It has been reported that in January 1988, owing to wrong declaration of goods by the ship's agent, Kandla Port Trust permitted discharge of a commodity included in the schedule to the Insecticides Act, 1968. Show cause notice has been issued to the shipping agent by Kandla Port Trust for wrong declaration/variation in description. Two containers with description of goods as Electroplating Salt Granual (Potassium Cyanide) were imported by two different vessels in May/June 1987. These containers have been confiscated by Customs for non-payment of duty and fine. The importers have gone to Court. The cargo cannot be cleared till the matter is settled in the Court. These containers have been stored in a fenced area specially earmarked for hazardous cargo.

Transfer of accounting functions from the Indian audit and accounts department

2775. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have appointed a Committee on the issue of Transfer of Accounting Functions from the Indian Audit and Accounts Department to various State Governments;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

(c) whether the Committee has made any recommendations; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) No, Sir.

Survey to assess availabilty of water in the underground rivers

2776. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by Government to assess the existence and availability of water from the underground rivers in the country; and

(b) the usefulness of Remote Sensing Technology *via* satellite to unearth the hidden ground water resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Government have conducted hydrogeological surveys in an area of about 24.2 lakh sq. km. for ascertaining ground water conditions in the country.

(b) Satellite based remote sensing techniques are a useful aid in delineating features indicative of groundwater occurrence.

Remarks of Central Ministers on loan melas in Tripura

2777. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE:
SHRI NARAYAN KAR:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI M. A. BABY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Chief Minister of Tripura regarding remarks of Central Ministers about loan melas in that State; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.